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ABSTRACT

Noting the difficulty that many parents have finding activities to fit the busy life, budget, and energy levels of the average parent and the attention span and abilities of the typical infant and toddler, this book is designed as a reference book for parents and others looking for ways to entertain, educate, and enjoy a young child during the course of an average day. The book's introduction makes recommendations for appropriate materials and equipment for children of various ages, discusses toys and toy storage, outlines ways to organize and prepare for crafts and projects, and discusses ways to practice and teach planned television and videotape viewing. The remainder of the book is organized in chapters by time of day or type of activity: (1) mornings; (2) meal times; (3) nap times; (4) afternoons; (5) bath times and bedtimes; (6) outings; (7) travel and commuting; and (8) special events. Each chapter is organized by age range, starting with activities for the youngest children. Each activity includes suggested ages for the activity, special skills or interests involved, a list of necessary materials and preparation time, a messiness quotient, "the sibling factor" describing ways to involve older siblings, activity instructions, variations, and relevant safety information. (KB)

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